



FROM THE DIRECTOR

With God all things are possible! I use this scripture to announce to you "Good News"! By the time you read this newsletter Rainbow Homes will have purchased our 3rd quadplex at 2120 Phillips right next door to our 2121 Adelpha home. We will be moving new residents in gradually because of the lease agreements with existing tenants. We have two residents moved in to the one vacant apartment at this time. How exciting is that! An answer to our prayers. With over 20 people on our waiting list I am sure this quadplex will be filled soon.

Thank you to our board members Joe Perrone, Carrie Fancher and Tom Keenoy along with Susan Shehan for making this happen. We appreciate their efforts over and above their board and administrative duties. We are truly on the move!

Our next exciting news is we will be expanding our community room. With all the new residents we need to have a larger space for gathering. Susan will be moving to one of the empty apartments at Rainbow. We will be removing the wall between the existing community room and Susan's old apartment to enlarge the

kitchen area, have an accessible bathroom, eating area and community room. Along with the expansion we will offer 3 rooms for overnight respite. With the extra space we will also expand our current day respite program.

Our Picnic "Western Roundup" held on August 12th was a great success. The day was spent greeting over 183 people. Residents were proud to give tours of their homes. Thank you to all who participated in this yearly event. Awards were given to Volunteers Kim Ford and Youth Volunteer Patrick Gauthier and Tyler Boogaard. You will find information in this newsletter on their awards. Board members, staff and residents were on hand to greet family and friends to this event. A great time was had by all! The 50/50

drawing was won by Mr. Russell who so generously donated his \$110.00 winnings back to the home. Thank you to all who bought tickets!

Please check out the rest of this newsletter for further information on the "Good News" and Happenings at Rainbow Homes. If you haven't joined us as a member please consider doing so. Your donation of \$25.00 will help with our expansion and furnishing our community room.

In the last newsletter I mentioned about a grant that Rainbow Homes has received for capacity building through a Faith Based Government Grant. We will be hearing shortly what our capacity building budget will entail.

*God's continued blessings,
Joann Davis*

If you are receiving this newsletter you are interested in some form in this special program. Please consider volunteering your time, talent and treasure to assist in our expansion and future projects. If you would like to save us a stamp and receive this newsletter by e-mail please e-mail: Joann at joannedavis22@hotmail.com

2111 ADELPHA AVENUE, APT. B HOLT, MI 48842

RAINBOW HOMES

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Our Mission

To provide ecumenical Christian housing and services for adults with cognitive disabilities, where they can grow personally and spiritually to reach their God given potential. The residents will be nurtured in a homelike Christian setting.

Susan's Two Cents

Welcome to Steve R. He is the first resident to move into the new building. Steve works at the Cooley Law School Library and uses the CATA Bus to get there. He attends the Holt United Methodist Church. His Sunday School group gave Steve a moving shower to help supply his new bachelor pad. So far Steve has enjoyed the concerts and ball games. He indicates that he is interested in the next Mystery trip learning to cook and opening his own checking account.

Welcome to Lila (owner Ty Boogaard) and Sydney (owners Al and Sally Aldrich) the dogs. They have been



welcomed visitors to Rainbow Homes. The residents are enjoying the "cuddling time", taking the dogs for a walk and teaching new tricks. The clean up duties however are not very popular! Lila has even joined the respite program while Ty was on vacation.

The garden is sharing its bounty. Pea pods, egg plant, radishes, tomatoes zucchini and a few lowly cucumbers have made it to the table so far. We are looking forward to the basil and our annual pesto making.

Our thanks to Bill Russel from Wood and Chips Tree service for the donations of several loads of wood chips for our landscaping.

Congratulations to Chad and Kevin 1's victory with the Special Olympic Softball team. They took 1st in their division on July 14th at the State Tournament.



Parents Corner

We asked parents and siblings of Rainbow Homes residents to fill out a Survey and here are a few results.

What differences have you seen in your family member after being in Rainbow Homes?

* "Michael's self confidence has grown tremendously".

* "She is much more social. She is more sure of herself and has learned about her checkbook and how to fill it out. Attends church each Sunday and is involved in community volunteering".

* "She has regained much self reliance and independence"

* "Her social skills have improved 100%".

* "She has assumed more responsibility, her self-image is much improved. She improved social skills. She is spiritually stimulated. Her opportunities for activities have led to her personal growth".

What would you say to a parent looking into Rainbow Homes for their son/daughter?

* "A wonderful supportive living and learning experience. A great place to learn how to live a very productive life".

* "It is the next best thing to being at home. They have to get permission on things and check in upon returning. My daughter has grown by leaps and bounds in her

With Great Appreciation!

A Note of Thanks to Sandy for her work with our residents.

Sandy lives in Grand Rapids with her husband John and five children. She initially helped out when another staff left as we went through the hiring process, but remained to work weekends. Sandy was a great asset to the resident by having high expectations. She also shared Jack her newborn son (the only boy with 4 sisters) each weekend. The resident learned how to hold an infant, play with him and how to changed diapers! Sandy has excelled a job at Pine Rest in Grand Rapids. She will be greatly missed.



personal, work, and social life. She has learned to be independent. I don't need to worry about her when I'm gone".

* "We searched for ten years to find a safe, developmental, and pleasant atmosphere for our disabled daughter. We are very grateful for Rainbow Homes and the excellent staff".

* "It is an answer to a prayer. I couldn't be happier. As a single parent I was very concerned about Amy, if something should happen to me. I don't worry anymore".

* "I would highly recommend it".



Thank You!

We would gratefully like to thank the following individuals, organizations, and businesses.

Your support is sincerely appreciated!

June—July 2007

Ronald & Cynthia Bewersdorff*

Phyllis Chipman*

Robert & Jayne Foy*

Paul & Barbara Hughes*

Norman & Cynthia Mackay*

Jean Mather*

Fr. Thomas D McDevitt*

Mary Meakin*

Marita Vallier*

Jennie Baly

Constance Cole

Joann Davis

Marylin Ebaugh

Deacon Joe & Mary Lou Kratofil

Jackson Area Catholic Special Religious Education

Camilla J. Pratt

Sharon & Steve Sacka

E. John & Cynthia Shinsky

Stuart D.Sleight

Eva Smith

Margaret Sullivan

Grace, Andy & John Switzer

Carolyn Textra\par Luke & Merling Tsai

Robert C.Zahon

Business & Organizations

St. James Parish Council # 9182, Mason

St. John the Evangelist Parish Council # 8392, Jackson
Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish Council #10542, Lansing

St. Mary Parish Council #11875, Charlotte

St. John's Area Parish Council #3281, St. John

Richard's Parish Council #788, Lansing

St. Mary Star of the Sea Council #9301, Jackson

St. Mary Cathedral Council 11694, Lansing



Morgan Stanley Annual Appeal Program, Joe Perrone
Capital Region Community Foundation

* denotes 2007 Membership

Fundraisers in the Works!

Are you a Scrapbooker or a Want to be Scrapbooker?
Then mark your calendar!

Date: Saturday, November 3, 2007

Time: 9:00am - 9:00pm

Place: South Lansing Christian Church

6300 Aurelius Road, Lansing

Phone: (517) 699-8454 or (517) 740-0293

E-mail: rainbowhomes@sbcglobal.net or

joannedavis22@hotmail.com



Registration Fee: \$30.00each for Adults

\$20.00 each for Children 12-18 years old

Now until November 3, 2007

At the Door: \$35.00each for Adults

\$25.00each for Children 12-18

No children under the age of 12 please!

Whether you are a scrapbooking enthusiast or a newbie to the hobby, come and join us for a day of non-stop Scrapbooking and Card Making. Vendors from Lansing Area with items for Sale and Make-It-Take-It Sessions throughout the day are scheduled. How exciting to have many vendors in one place! Just imagine needing that special embellishment or the use of a die cut machine and it is there at your fingertips. All this and you will be helping adults with disAbilities. To obtain registration information, be sure to visit our web site.



Annual Silent Auction & Dinner
"Somewhere Over the Rainbow"

Saturday, February 2, 2008

Silent Auction starts at 6:00 pm

Dinner 7:30 - 9:30 pm

Keynote speaker: 1st Gentleman,
Daniel Mulhern

Immaculate Heart of Mary
Parish Center

3815 South Cedar Street, Lansing

If you weren't able to join us last year you missed a wonderful fun filled event. Please plan on attending this year. Donations are accepted at anytime for the Silent Auction. Anyone can donate an item. Consider donating an item this year! More information will follow soon and again information and forms for donations are on our website.

*Donation ideas: Movie Theme Basket's w/Dvd's * Valentine Gift Baskets * Chocolate Heart Boxes* Gift Certificates to: Restaurants, Spa's, Store's, Movies, * Paintings * Jewelry * Small Appliances * Flowers * Plants * Sporting Equipment: MSU or UofM items Cards: Gas, Phone, I-Tune Cards * Collectibles * Signed Books etc. or Monetary donations*

Celebrating at Rainbow Homes

Congratulations to Volunteer of the Year Kim Ford and Youth Volunteers of the Year: Patrick Gauthier & Tyler Boogaard!



At our Annual Picnic Western Round-up, Awards were presented to three individuals. Kim Ford who has been, leading our bible study for the last three. She has given generously of her time, talent and treasure. Not only does she teach the class but provides all the crafts as well as snacks. Residents have really grown with her class and look forward to her new projects. Thank you Kim.

Patrick Gauthier is a member of Boy Scout Troop #417. Patrick helped with the building of our new Raised Garden at Rainbow Homes. Besides the garden work, Patrick has spent time with our residents helping out with special projects and fulfilling service hours required for High School. Thank you Patrick

Here's to Tyler Boogaard, or as some of our residents refer to him, our "Mascot". Ty is Susan's nephew and has been coming here since he was three. He has helped out with gardening, yard work and activities. The resident's all enjoy his youth and exuberance. Thanks Ty.

Thank you to, Jeannette and the students and staff of

Jackson Area Catholic Special Religious Education Program in Jackson for inviting us to a "Lugnuts" Game on August 1st. The Cedar Rapids Kernels upended the Lansing Lugnuts 5-1 on a hot Wednesday afternoon at Oldsmobile Park before 2,353 fans on Summer Fun Day. Residents had a great time and appreciate being included with this special group. New friendships were made and are hoped to continue.



Thank you to Kroger's for their donation of food for our Picnic. Thank you also to Lansing Board of Water and Light for supplying water bottles for the Picnic. We appreciate your help!



Max and Erma's Fundraiser on Thursday, August 16th was a complete success. Thank you to all who had lunch or dinner that day. 20% of your sale was donated to Rainbow Homes for our "Community Room Renovation Project" This was an easy project. All we had to do is EAT! Thank you to Max and Erma's on Lake Lansing Road for your kindness in assisting Rainbow Homes in this fundraising project.



Over the years we have received donations from many Knights of Columbus Councils. We are very grateful to the Knights of Columbus for their dedication to persons with cognitive disabilities. The donations that we receive from the yearly "MR Drive" help us immensely. Without the help from this organization, Rainbow Homes would not be the program it is today! We salute you and your efforts on behalf of all the residents, staff and Board of Directors.



Rainbow Homes Residents show their "Western Spirit" at the Annual Picnic in August

Did you know?



We have over 500 families on our mailing list. If everyone would become a member of Rainbow Homes at \$25.00 that would raise \$12,500 without even having a fundraiser! Consider membership, please! At present time we have Sixty, 2007 Members of Rainbow Homes.



RAINBOW HOMES SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

Many people have asked how they can help out with our renovations. One way is through a sponsorship of a "piece of the remodeling". You can personally sponsor or involve your church or civic group to take on the project.

One of 3 Respite Rooms:

(each room will have the following items)

Twin Bed, Tall Dresser, Night Stand, Lamp, Art Work for Walls, TV, DVD Player, Sheets & Comforter Total Cost for each Respite Room is: \$1,000 to \$1500

Sponsor our Community Room updating by purchasing the following:

Twin Size Sleeper Chair for overnight staff at the cost of: \$500.00

4 Matching Round Dining Tables at the cost of: \$200.00 ea

20 Matching Dining room Chairs at the cost of: \$75.00 ea

7 piece Living room Grouping at the cost of: \$1,000.00

Sponsor Kitchen Renovations by purchasing the following:

6 Burner Electric Cook top at the cost of: \$1,000.00

2 Dishwashers at the cost of: \$500.00 each

Garbage Disposer at the cost of: \$200.00

Double Kitchen Sink at the cost of: \$200.00

Large capacity Microwave at the cost of: \$400.00

Refrigerator (just refrigerator no freezer) at the cost of: \$900.00



Monetary donations going toward construction costs are always needed. A complete list can be obtained from the staff at Rainbow Homes.

Each donation will be recognized by a bronze plaque with you or your organizations name on it to hang in the community room..

**Thank you for considering helping with this much needed project.
Construction could begin as early as October.**

I would will sponsor the following:

Name of Item: _____

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

City _____ Zip _____ Phone: _____

E-mail: _____





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Phone: (517) 699-8454
E-mail: rainbowhomes@sbcglobal.net
Web: <http://home.catholicweb.com/rainbowhomes/>



Rainbow Homes is a United Way participant Agency



Calendar Corner

Saturday - November 3, 2007
Fund-raiser
"Scrapbooking and Card
Making" Event at South
Lansing Christian Church
in Holt.

Saturday - February 2, 2008
2nd Annual Silent Auction
& Dinner at Immaculate
Heart of Mary Parish.
Keynote speaker:
1st Gentlemen
Daniel Mulhern.

Check out <http://home.catholicweb.com/rainbowhomes/> for more details on all events.